

Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan (“Plan”)

The goal of a Continuity of Learning Plan and COVID-19 Response Plan is to ensure that each District or Public School Academy is providing, to the best of its ability, each student with alternative modes of instruction to help them stay on pace in their learning. This application recognizes that there is no “one-size-fits-all” solution; multiple means of engaging students and supporting families may be necessary that may vary by grade level, school building, or student population served.

For the purposes of the Plan, “district” refers to school districts and public school academies.

Date Submitted: October 19, 2022

Name of District: Virtual Learning Academy of St. Clair County

Address of District: 1520 Michigan Road, Port Huron, MI. 48060

District Code Number: 74912

Email Address of the District Superintendent: everitt.joshua@sccacademy.org

Name of Intermediate School District: St. Clair County RESA

Name of Authorizing Body (if applicable):

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-35 a Plan must include all of the following parts:

1. Please describe the methods the district will use to provide alternative modes of instruction other than in-person instruction and a summary of materials each pupil and the pupil’s parents or guardians will need to access meaningfully the alternative modes of instruction included in the Plan. If the Plan relies on electronic instruction, the Plan must ensure to the extent feasible that pupils have access to a connected device capable of accessing the electronic instruction and must not penalize a pupil for the pupil’s inability to fully participate.

“Alternative modes of instruction” means modes of pupil instruction, other than in-person instruction, that may include, without limitation, partnerships with other districts or intermediate districts or community colleges or institutions of higher education, use of vendors, use of online learning, telephone communications, email, virtual instruction, videos, slideshows, project-based learning, use of instructional packets, or a hybrid of multiple modes of learning that still promote recommended practices for social distancing to mitigate the spread of COVID-

District/PSA Response: VLA is an online public school academy which is structured to provide

students with the utmost flexibility in their learning. The structure has long been established in that students are able to complete their courses in an online environment with continuous opportunities for support, mentoring, tutoring and communication with their classroom teacher mentors. VLA was already equipped to offer online learning and plans to continue to use Edgenuity, a technology-based platform, for remote learning as well as in-person learning. Chromebook devices and Verizon Mifi internet devices are provided to all students who need them. All students have access to grade-level/course instructional resources as needed to complete their work.

2. Please describe the methods the district will use to keep pupils at the center of educational activities, including outreach to continue building relationships and maintain connections, and to help pupils feel safe and valued.

District/PSA Response: Classroom teacher mentors, assigned a caseload by alphabet, are expected to make contact with every student on their caseload minimally once a week. This will be done through face-to-face communication, text, phone call, email, Google chat, etc.. Google Meet or Zoom will be utilized for student interaction as appropriate. The focus will be on two-way communication to address students’ academic progress and to build relationships. We will continue to be flexible in our approaches to connect with students.

3. Please describe the district’s plans to deliver content in multiple ways so that all pupils can access learning.

District/PSA Response: Using technology, content will be delivered through the online Edgenuity platform, the school App, other social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) and in-person. Teachers will continue to be available to students Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm where they can answer student questions and provide needed support for students working both in the VLA building and from home. Content delivery will be intentional with clear expectations for student progress in their coursework. Students will continue to be able to work at their own pace.

Please insert your tentative schedule of expectations for contact/content delivery here:

	Virtual Learning Academy of St. Clair County
Teacher contacts: Relationship building and connecting X times per week using what tool	Teacher mentors will be contacting students minimally once per week through face-to-face communication, Edgenuity, email, text, phone call, or Google Chat.
Instruction: X times per week using what tool	Instruction will continue to be provided through Edgenuity. In addition, we have supplemental instructional materials available to students who are struggling in their core content courses.
“Office Hours”: Opportunities for students and teachers to receive support, seek clarification etc.	Staff will continue to be available to students Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm. Our after-hours schedule will remain the same: Monday-Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 6:00pm to 9:00pm.

In order to address students with identified needs, support staff will be reaching out to students to assist them on an individual basis. IEPs will be followed in the VLA building and in a remote learning environment as needed.

4. Please describe the district's plans to manage and monitor learning by pupils.

District/PSA Response: Teacher mentors and other VLA support staff will monitor student access and assignment completion on a daily basis within the instructional platform. They will provide feedback to students on assignments through the instructional platform as they are completed (or on a daily basis). Students will be responsible for making academic progress. This will be assessed through activity completion in Edgenuity with adequate time and effort spent on assignments, through essay and short-writing assignments in ELA courses, Google Classroom labs in science courses, Google Classroom art production assignments in art courses, speaking and writing assignments in foreign language courses and more. In addition, all final exams are now required to be taken in the VLA building.

5. Please attach a budget outline estimating additional expenditures associated with the Plan and sources of revenue to pay for those expenditures.

District/PSA Response: No new additional expenditures.

Sources: N/A

6. Please describe the manner in which district administrators, board members, teachers, and any representatives of teachers collaborated in development of the Plan.

District/PSA Response: VLA is highly collaborative by nature. All stakeholders were involved in the development of the Continuity of Learning Plan. VLA administrators met with their building teacher mentors and other VLA support staff for initial input. Before finalizing the plan, feedback was sought from VLA board members and relevant St. Clair County RESA staff.

7. Please describe the methods the district will use to notify pupils and parents or guardians of the Plan.

District/PSA Response: The initial Plan was shared out to VLA families using the VLA school app. The revised Plan will be posted to the district website.

8. Please provide an estimate of the date on which the district will begin implementation of the Plan, which must be no later than April 28, 2020.

District/PSA Response: As an online public school academy, VLA has been providing online education and support since it opened back in 2009. The additional supports as noted in the Plan

were implemented beginning March 16, 2020 and have continued since that time.

9. Please describe the assistance, to the extent feasible, to pupils enrolled in any postsecondary dual enrollment courses under Public Act of , as amended, MCL 388.511 to 388.524, and Career and Technical Preparation Act, 258 PA 2000, as amended, MCL 388.1901 to 388.1913 in completing the courses during the 2019-2020 school year.

District/PSA Response: For our students in dual enrollment courses we will be working with St. Clair County Community College. We will ensure that the students have the appropriate materials and support to complete those courses. For students in CTE programs we will work with the St. Clair County TEC staff to coordinate communication and instruction to students. St. Clair County TEC will be providing in-person instruction to students who are currently enrolled in their programs.

10. Please describe how the district will continue to provide or arrange for continuation of food distribution to eligible pupils.

District/PSA Response: Now that we are operating in-building again, we are offering free breakfast and lunch to all students in attendance. We are no longer able to offer take-home food boxes. Students and families will be able to access community food distribution centers in St. Clair County. Organizations such as the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan have websites with locations and schedules for food distribution. A summary of those organizations and websites will be shared with our students via Edgenuity, VLA app, and Facebook page.

11. Please confirm that the district will continue to pay school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context of the Plan, subject to any applicable requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.

District/PSA Response: Yes, the district will continue to pay school employees. Please note that all VLA staff are now back working in the building and are still offering the support deemed necessary in this Plan.

12. Provide and describe how the district will evaluate the participation of pupils in the Plan.

District/PSA Response: Teacher mentors and other VLA support staff will use the instructional platform and regular two-way communication to monitor student wellness, engagement, and completion of assignments. They will also keep a log of communication with students and families. Inconsistent completion of assignments and/or communication with a parent or student will be raised to the principal or counselor level to develop a plan to connect with the student and family. Interventions will be determined and carried out as necessary. Additional support agencies may be sought to make these connections.

13. Please describe how the district will provide mental health support to pupils affected by a state of emergency or state of disaster prompted by COVID-19.

District/PSA Response: The district staff will regularly assess students during in-person and remote communication to determine students' mental health needs. The counselor and/or administrative staff will reach out to individual students and families to provide needed support or to connect the family to outside agencies to help meet their needs. We are currently working to hire a full-time school social worker which would allow us to offer more mental health support on a daily basis.

14. Please describe how the district will support the efforts of the intermediate district in which the district is located to mobilize disaster relief childcare centers as described in Executive Order 2020-16 or any executive order that follows it.

District/PSA Response: St. Clair County RESA is coordinating childcare for essential workers at a county level. They have identified existing child care centers with openings and are filling those openings first. In the event additional childcare is required, SCCRESA will be working with Port Huron Area Schools and East China School District to open childcare centers which are in close proximity to our three local hospitals.

15. Optional question: Does the District plan to adopt a balanced calendar instructional program for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year? Does the District plan to adopt a balanced calendar instructional program for the 2020-2021 school year?

District/PSA Response: Our board approved the new school calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. This calendar offers the same number of instructional days as previous year calendars.

Name of District Leader Submitting Application: Joshua Everitt

Date Approved: 4/29/2020

Revision Approved: 10/19/2022

Name of ISD Superintendent/Authorizer Designee: Brenda Tenniswood

Date Submitted to Superintendent and State Treasurer: 4/29/2020

Revision Sent: 10/20/2022

Confirmation approved Plan is posted on District/PSA website: 10/20/2022